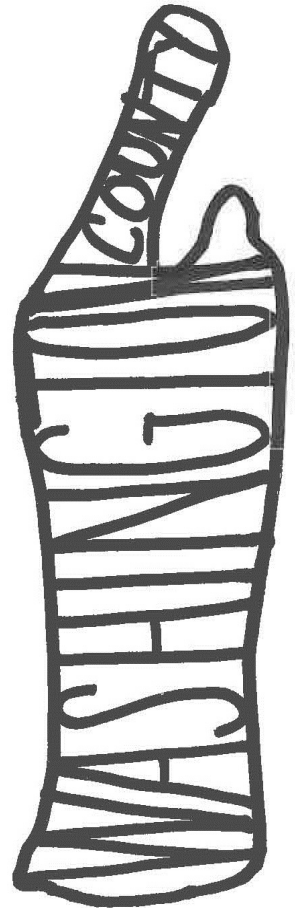


**Joint 2014 DSS & OFA
Annual Report Supplement**



Department of Social Services
Tammy L. DeLorme Commissioner
&
Office for the Aging
Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell Director

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Washington County Department of Social Services is to protect those in need and to help individuals and families achieve and maintain independence and self-sufficiency. Our responsibility is to maximize resources and to achieve optimal outcomes for the residents of Washington County.

Overall Agency Goal:

To create and maintain a concept of single-agency across all levels and Divisions focused on the delivery of service to clients without regard to program.

We will provide the most effective, collaborative intervention for clients which will result in maximizing self-sufficiency and independence.



With great respect for the employees of this Agency and the work that they do, it is my privilege to provide you with the 2014 Annual Report. This report is meant to be informative and concise; it includes groups of data with limited narrative. It would take hours of discussion to provide sufficient detail on the services that are provided through DSS. That detail has been provided in past reports and is intentionally omitted in this supplement. The 2012 report remains posted to the county website and provides comprehensive detail on the programs cited herein.

Over the course of the past year much attention has been given to the alarming presence of heroin and opiate abuse in our country and specifically within our county. At the same time we, within DSS, have been increasing our initiative to help our clients strengthen the natural supports available within the extended family unit and the community. The impact of heroin and opiate abuse on the family unit, particularly when young children are involved, is of great concern. Our Department will continue to take an active role in addressing the impacts of this insidious addiction. We are aware that the entire family unit is negatively impacted when drug abuse is present. I anticipate that every program within the Department will be impacted by the continued spread of this abuse. In keeping with our Overall Agency Goal, we will continue to coordinate our efforts internally to be as effectual as is possible.

Please read on and let me know if you would like to discuss any of the information provided within this report in further detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammy J. DeLorme". The script is fluid and cursive.

DSS Commissioner



Greetings,

Through the partnership between the Office for Aging and DSS, it is with pleasure that I present to you the Washington County Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center Supplemental Report. Included in this year's report is supporting data for 2014 that includes both OFA and DSS programs. Some of the many accomplishments that occurred in 2014 include increasing our staff ratio so we could expand upon programs and services and provide quality customer service. In 2014, we initiated a dementia capable service system for persons with dementia and their caregivers to live healthy, active lives in their own communities. We also partnered with the Argyle school district to coordinate an intergenerational event. The Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center continues to provide unbiased information and access to home and community based services for aging and disabled populations. I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for all of their support and the Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center employees who are committed and dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of others.

Sincerely,

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director

Legal Services

Agency staff work in collaboration with the Washington County Attorney's Office on matters involving all areas of legal representation.

A summary of the 2014 legal activities is as follows:

Type of Petition	Total No. of Petitions
Child Abuse	5
Child Neglect	61
Applications to Extend Order of Supervision	3
Extension/Review of Foster Care	4
Permanency Hearing Reports	56
Violation of Court Order	11
Termination of Parental Rights	7
Total Number of Petitions	147
Total Child Removal Cases	16
Total New Adult Guardianship Cases	1

Recoveries	
Estates	\$151,019.02
Accident Liens	\$3,474.39
Public Assistance	\$4,311.38
Total	\$158,804.79

Accounting

DSS/OFA Comparison of Expenditures to Revenue

2013 & 2014

	2013 Actual	2014 Actual
Administration	\$ 6,162,994	\$6,209,867
Includes salaries & on call for DSS, Equipment and Contract Costs for DSS & OFA		
OFA Salaries	\$ 262,718	\$ 281,309
Fringe Benefits DSS & OFA	\$ 2,739,126	\$ 2,698,495
Programs DSS & OFA	<u>\$ 8,816,547</u>	<u>\$ 8,006,170</u>
Total Cost to Administer Programs	\$17,981,385	\$17,195,841
Total Revenues (State & Federal)	<u>\$14,223,321</u>	<u>\$13,467,047</u>
Net Cost for DSS/OFA Programs	\$ 3,758,064	\$ 3,728,794
Medicaid Cost to County	\$13,280,488	\$13,022,460
Includes IGT to PV Nursing Home		

Revenue Breakdown of Total Funds Expended into Area Communities

Program	\$ 960,434.00
Federal	\$ 7,159,617.00
State	\$ 5,346,996.00
Local	\$ 3,728,794.00
Grand Total	\$ 17,195,841.00

Child Protective Services

Reports of Suspected Child Abuse and Maltreatment in 2014

Total Number of Reports	Reported Abuse		Report of Maltreatment	
	Number of Reports	Percentage	Number of Reports	Percentage
1,019	21	2%	998	98%

Number of Children Involved in Suspected Child Abuse and Maltreatment in 2014

Total Children	Child Abuse		Child Maltreatment	
	Child Count	Child Percentage	Child Count	Child Percentage
1,636	57	3.50%	1,579	96.5%

Total number of cases and percentages of cases that went through FAR & Investigations in 2014

	Total Cases	Percentage
FAR	388	39%
Investigations	631	61%

Placement Services

In 2014 12 Adoptions were finalized

27 Youth entered foster care during 2014 Case Types Resulting in the Placement of a Child in foster care

- 1 Youth was placed as a Persons In Need of Supervision (PINS)
- 25 Youth were placed through Child Neglect Petitions
- 1 18 year old youth re-entered to care

37 children were discharged from foster care in addition to 2 children who were placed briefly for 30 day evaluations in 2014:

- 12 - Returned to the custodial parent
- 2 - Returned to non-custodial parent
- 7 - Relative Resource
- 12 - Were adopted
- 3 - Turned 18 and refused to remain in care
- 1 - Care transferred to another county
- 2 - 30 day placement

**Number of Youth in foster care 2014
(on last day of each month)**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
56	52	47	47	55	49	48	42	44	44	45	40

Preventive Services

Preventive Services Referrals

Preventive Referrals	144
PINS Referrals: 41 Parental; 93 School	134
Juvenile Delinquent Referrals	12

One Agency Collaboration

Of the total number of referrals received, 68 involved collaboration with the Assistance Programs Division to assist in meeting the needs of homeless children/families. Through this collaborative effort, the agency is able to monitor the risk and safety of children in these temporary motel settings while intensively assisting parents to find safe/stable housing. Additionally, casework staff assist in linking families to necessary services.

Child Support & Enforcement

Washington County's collection efforts for 2014 totaled the receipt of \$8,129,708

	2012	2013	2014
Child Support cases at year end	3813	3764	4165
Children in open support cases at year end	4562	4740	4690
Petitions filed	711	970	941

**Total Dollars Collected as arrears for failure to pay child support from
Income Tax Refunds and Lottery Winnings**

Federal Refunds	\$247,546.12
State Refunds	\$107,094.25
Lottery Winnings	\$ 2,078.85

**\$499,768.29 was collected as reimbursement to offset DSS costs to include:
Foster Care, Temporary Assistance and Medical Support.**

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE & SNAP

2014 Monthly Average

		Cases / Households	Recipients / Persons	Annual Expenditures
	Description			
Temporary Assistance	Cash benefits to income eligible individuals to pay for basic necessities	342	594	2,555,259
Temporary Assistance is divided into two separate categories as follows:				
Family Assistance	Cash benefits to income eligible families	182	386: 64 Adults; 322 Children	1,285,593
Safety Net	Cash benefits to single adults/childless couples/ or families who have received more than 60 months of Family Assistance	160	208: 153 Adults; 55 Children	1,269,666
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	4,058	7,886	11,346,674
SNAP recipients as divided into the two separate TA categories:				
Temporary Assistance	In receipt of both TA and SNAP	947	1,214	2,122,117
Non-Temporary Assistance	In receipt of SNAP only	3,111	6,768	9,224,557

MEDICAID

MA Statistics

<u>Case Type</u>	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Dec-14</u>
MA	4,713	4,812	4,843
MPE	n/a	81	56
MA –SSI	1,667	1,657	1,681
FHP	696	690	1
Total	7,076	7,240	6,581
Total # of Individuals	10,980	11,222	10,089

HEAP

HEAP Grant Statistics

		2012	2013	**2014
Washington County Households Served	TA	228	173	129
	SNAP	5505	3613	2620
	HEAP Only	3961	2188	1881
Amount of Benefits	TA	\$ 64,856.98	\$ 81,919.00	\$ 63,851.00
	SNAP	\$1,675,555.00	\$1,733,652.00	\$1,470, 124.00
	HEAP Only	\$1,294,548.30	\$1,218,609.00	\$952,785.00
Totals		\$3,034,960.28	\$3,034,153.00	\$248,6760.00

**Statistics for HEAP Season 2014-2015 figures reflect only thru February 2015.

Updated data will be posted to online report once it is available.

FRAUD PROGRAM

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Cost Avoidance for Program Integrity Initiatives

Calendar Year 1/1/2014 – 12/31/2014

Initiative	Description	Number of Application Denials, Case Closings, or Grant Reductions	Estimated Cost Avoidance
Font End Detection System (FEDS)	Detecting fraud at application	109	\$1,104,799.00
Cases Settled through Criminal Court	Cases where arrests took place and charges were filed	30	\$64,985.99
Cases where over-payments determined not to be criminal	Money collected and paid in full	37	\$27,664.45
Prison Computer Match	Detecting Incarcerated Individuals	2	\$3,384.00
Intentional Program Violations (IPV)	Disqualification Sanctions are for those found guilty	52	\$101,188.00

DAY CARE PROGRAM

In 2014 there was a total of 120 open cases with a total of 344 children who are served through this program.

EMPLOYMENT

1,116 Assessments were completed for Employment Programs in 2014. Family cases numbered 528 and 588 were for individual cases. Of these assessments, 368 applicants had medical issues, and 613 were successfully diverted from Temporary Assistance using programs such as job search, CHOICES Program and job referrals from the JOBS specialist.

2014 Benefit Program

Family Assistance 100% Federal	\$ 2,910,490.00
Safety Net 29% State 71% Local	\$ 1,266,628.00
SNAP 100% Federal	\$ 11,346,674.00
HEAP 100% Federal	\$ 3,014,484.00
Day Care 100% Federal	\$ 996,993.00

Washington County Office for Aging & Disabilities Resource Center

Health Insurance Information, Counseling, and Assistance:

Public and Media Events and Activities

Total: 37

- ◆ 17 events/activities were interactive presentations to the public with an estimated number of attendees being 354 individuals.
- ◆ 2 events were booths or exhibits at special events, with an estimated number of attendees being 166 individuals.
- ◆ 5 events included mailings, newsletter, and fliers, with an estimated number of 12,274 persons reading or receiving the materials.



Our Annual Health Insurance Expo was successfully conducted in October and served 82 Washington County residents.

Health Insurance Information & Assistance

Total: 2,440

Individuals 64 and younger –1398

Individuals 65 and older –1042

Application Assistance

Part D Low Income Subsidy –42

Medicare Savings Program - 191

Medicaid –41

NUTRITION

Ages 60 +



Restaurant Dining

5,444 tickets disbursed and 4,941 tickets redeemed

Home Delivered Meals

Total Meals: 64,854

Total Clients Served: 490

Congregate Meals

Total Meals: 12,470

Total Clients Served: 420

Nutrition Program -

Overall Total Meals:

77,324



Nutrition Counseling

Total: 164

Nutrition Education

Total: 1185

Senior Center Recreation and Education

Total: 180

In partnership with the Washington County Council of Seniors, OFA/ADRC supported two Council of Seniors luncheons located in Argyle and Hartford,.

April Luncheon—123

October Luncheon - 160

Adult Services

Home and Community Based Services and Adult Protective

All of these programs are designed to provide consumers with the services that they need while keeping them safe in their home and avoiding institutional care.

Social Adult Day Services

Total Served: 12

Personal Emergency Response Services

Total: 25

Caregiver Services

Personal Care Level 1 - 3

Personal Care Level 2 - 24

Consumer Directed In-Home Services

Total: 12

Transportation

4/1/13 - 3/31/14 - 95

4/1/14 - 2/28/15 - 120

DSS Medicaid Programs/Home Care Services

LTHHCP - 28

Private Duty Nursing - 3

PCA/CDPAP - 94

In-Home Contact and Support (respite, companionship)

Total: 33

Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly

Personal Care Level 1- 42

Personal Care Level 2 - 33

Legal Assistance

Total: 25



ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Services directed to individuals 18 years and older who have an impairment (either physical or mental) and who are in danger of harm to themselves or others and have no one willing or able to assist them. It is the goal of the PSA staff to keep residents in the community as long as possible and with the least restrictive intervention.

Total # of Referrals - 172

Closed at Intake - 33

Open Assessment - 139

Open/Ongoing - 29

Guardianship - 8

2014 Review



In May, our office, as well as the New York State Office for the Aging, recognized Gail Dewey from Greenwich and Sally Walker from Fort Ann as Washington County Seniors of the Year given

their dedication and commitment to volunteerism and civic engagement

July 11, 2014 –Senior Picnic at Washington County Fairgrounds

**Total Tickets
sold: 270**



In partnership with the Argyle School Drama Club and the Student Council, we facilitated an intergenerational dinner theater event. Individuals enjoyed an evening that included a nutritious meal and a viewing of the play called Tales of the Arabian Nights.

**On May 1, 2014 the Senior Dinner Theatre
was held at the Argyle School.**

Total Tickets sold: 105

Councils

2014 Representatives

The Office for the Aging Advisory Council persists to review current Aging programs and services and meets on a quarterly basis.

- Argyle - Carol Kuhr
- Cambridge –Mary Bodnar
- Easton –Florence Perry
- Fort Ann –Gretchen Stark
- Fort Edward - Richard Mercier
- Granville –Carol McGivern
- Greenwich –Shirley Coon
- Hampton –William Lawrence
- Hartford –Lettie Hayes
- Hebron –Alice Coldwell
- Jackson –Fran Voerman
- Kingsbury –Sandy Wheeler
- Salem - David McNitt
- White Creek - Helen Decker
- Whitehall –Patricia Provost



NY Connects Long Term Care Council 2014 Accomplishments

- Four public presentations were completed on Disability Etiquette and Responding to Person's with Disabling Conditions.
- A new support group “Caring for Ourselves” was created. It is a new support group for anyone caring for a family member, friend, or loved one.
- A resource guide was created that includes agencies that currently have medical equipment for loan and which ones would be willing to accept more.
- Senior shared housing grant opportunities were researched. This information will be used in the future as we continue to explore ways to address the need for more housing for seniors and disabled individuals with low income.
- Increased public awareness was achieved regarding the Emergency Planning for Special Needs Registry.

DSS & OFA Staff Highlights

A luncheon is provided through the support of the Management Team during the Employee Appreciation Day. For the second year in a row, the staff members have been invited to participate in a good spirited baking contest which provides the dessert!

Judges for the baking contest are pictured (L-R) Treasurer Al Nolette, Veterans Director Sam Hall, Personnel Officer Melissa



Moulthrop and Sheriff Jeff Murphy.



Office for Aging and Disability Resource Center employees hosted the Annual Senior Picnic at the Washington County Fairgrounds held on July 11, 2014.

A Food Pantry, accessible to the residents of the County, is maintained through donations and employee support. Delivery days require a great deal of organization and the assistance of the County Buildings & Grounds Department as well as help through the Alternative Sentencing Department. Pictured: Beau Blanchard, B&G Dept. and Ami Burnell, DSS.





For additional copies of this report and/or for a copy of the more detailed 2012 annual report please view the following web address:

<http://www.washingtoncountyny.gov>